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Illinois Winter Survival Guide



Illinois State Police

ILLINOIS
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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

TAKE YOUR TIME ...

- Check Illinois road conditions at www.gettingaroundillinois.com before you leave, or call the Winter Road Conditions Hotline at 1-800-452-4368 for valuable travel information, which is continuously updated.
- Choose main routes and be rested and alert.
- Make someone aware of your routes, and if your plans change, let someone know. Check in when you've reached your destination.
- Remember, cell phone coverage is not available in many remote areas.
- Keep your gas tank at least half full.
- Clear any snow, ice or frost from windows, lights, hood, heater and air inlet vents (don't forget mirrors and wipers).
- Do not drive with the heater in recirculation mode; it can increase humidity.
- Drive with your lights on and reduce your speed.

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AT URBANA-
CHAMPAIGN
BOOKSTACKS

USE THESE TIPS TO PREVENT SLIPS

Adjust your driving for the conditions; if there is ice or snow on the road, you must take extra precautions.

- Don't use cruise control in wet, icy or snowy weather.
- Position your hands on the steering wheel at 9 o'clock and 3 o'clock.
- If you lose traction, gradually slow down – don't slam on the brakes!
- Steering, braking and accelerating smoothly are key to maximum vehicle control on slippery surfaces. Steer just enough to follow the path you intend (most people steer too much or too fast).
- Be ready to handle potentially dangerous situations by thinking ahead about your options, such as controlling your speed and changing lanes.
- Use extra caution when driving on bridges or concrete highways – ice forms first on these surfaces.
- Avoid driving through snowdrifts; they may cause you to lose control of your vehicle.
- Slow down in advance of shaded areas (especially curves) where ice and snow are the last to melt.



WATCH OUT FOR SNOWPLOWS

Remember... snowplows are covered under Scott's Law, the "Move Over Law", which mandates that when approaching any emergency vehicle stopped along the roadway, you must:

- Proceed with due caution
- Change lanes if possible
- Reduce your speed



Following a snowplow too closely can be dangerous. Give them room.

DURING A WINTER STORM

IF STRANDED IN A CAR ...

Remain in your vehicle where rescuers are most likely to find you! Turn your lights on flashing, hang a piece of cloth or distress flag from the radio antenna or window, or display a trouble sign.

When the engine is running, open a window slightly. This will protect you from carbon monoxide. You may need to clear snow away from the car's exhaust pipe.

BE PREPARED!

During winter months, use this handy checklist to make sure you're prepared every time you take a trip.

- Tools: jack, lug wrench
- Shovel
- Bottled water
- Road maps
- Extra warm clothes, boots, hat and gloves
- Ice scraper and snow brush
- Cell phone and car adapter
- Flashlight with fresh batteries
- First aid kit
- Matches or lighter
- Battery jumper cables
- Extra food
- Blanket/sleeping bag(s)
- Paper towels
- Pocket knife
- Extra washer fluid

*To schedule a
traffic safety program for
your school or group
please contact the
Safety Education Unit at
(217) 524-2525 or your
Illinois State Police
District Headquarters.*

STATE POLICE DISTRICT OFFICES

DISTRICT	NUMBERS
1 Sterling 3107 East Lincolnway, 61081-1712	815/632-4010
2 Elgin 777 South State Street, 60123-7689	847/931-2405
District Chicago 9511 W. Harrison St., Des Plaines, 60016-1562	847/294-4400
5 Lockport 16648 South Broadway Street, 60441-9546	815/726-6377
6 Pontiac Post Office Box 498, 61764-0498	815/844-1500
7 East Moline 800 Hillcrest Road, 61244-1161	309/752-4915
8 Metamora 1265 Lourdes Road, 61548-9028	309/383-2133
9 Springfield 801 S. 7th St., Ste. 100-M, P.O. Box 19461, 62794-9461	217/786-7107
10 Pesotum U.S. 45 South, P.O. Box 110, 61863-0110	217/265-0050
11 Collinsville 1100 Eastport Plaza, 62234-6116	618/346-3990
12 Effingham 401 Industrial Avenue, Suite A., 62401-2835	217/347-2711
13 DuQuoin 1391 South Washington St., 62832-3841	618/542-2171
14 Macomb 1600 N. Lafayette Street, 61455-9194	309/833-4046
15 Downers Grove 2700 Ogden Avenue, 60515-1703	630/241-6800
16 Pecatonica 16450 West State Road, 61063-9202	815/239-1152
17 LaSalle IL Rt. 351 North, 61301-1047	815/224-1171
18 Litchfield 102 IL Rt. 16, 62056-1574	217/324-4900
19 Carmi 919 IL Highway 14, 62821-2309	618/382-4606
20 Pittsfield Post Office Box 32, 62363-0032	217/285-2034
21 Ashkum Post Office Box 147, 60911	815/698-2395
22 Ullin 1154 Shawnee College Road, 62992-2113	618/845-3740

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